

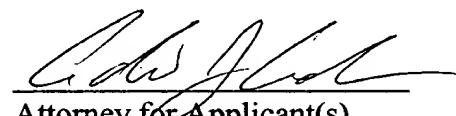
REMARKS

Rejected claims 1-16 are cancelled.

Remaining original Claims 17-25 have been indicated as being allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, a prompt and favorable action by the Examiner is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner believe any remaining issues may be resolved via a telephone interview, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' representative at the number below to discuss such issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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